

appointments and city patronage positions.⁸⁰ The next day Waddell's board met to discuss the reorganization of the city fire departments and the purchase of equipment to establish a mounted police patrol. Additionally, the board declared that all city officers who had not tendered their resignations were discharged from their posts.⁸¹

Waddell's cabinet took another break until November 22 when they met to discuss the timing of the resignation of city clerk and treasurer William Struthers. Struthers had dutifully recorded the minutes of the Wright administration as well as the transfer to Waddell. Struthers took the minutes of the November 22 meeting and recorded that he would resign his office on January 1, 1899. Josh James was elected to replace Struthers at that time. The board also declared the position of city attorney vacant unless the incumbent, Caleb P. Locky,

resigned before December 1. Thomas Strange was elected to replace Locky at that time. Alderman Kramer made a motion to return the wages of street hands to \$1.00 per day. The motion failed, and the street hands were to continue receiving the current pay of 8 cents per hour. Three days later the board met again to discuss bills for transporting both soldiers and those banished from town. It was approved that the board pay the railroad bill for transportation to Richmond for 7 men and to New Bern for 2 in addition to the hotel bills for soldiers. The matter of the pay for street hands was brought up again, possibly after pressure from the employees, and the pay was raised to the \$1.00 per day as requested earlier.

A full changeover to a purely Democratic regime emerged slowly by the end of 1898. By December, the resignation of C. P. Locky as city attorney was in hand, and three aldermen put in office after the coup resigned and were replaced.⁸² Fire Chief Charles Schnibben was possibly the only city employee who managed to save his job. Schnibben had been appointed chief under Wright's administration in 1897, and, in December, it was decided that he should remain in place. At the first December meeting, the board received a report that there had been 83 arrests after the riot, with 42 being whites and 41 being blacks. The majority of arrests were for drunk and disorderly behavior. Four whites were arrested for firing pistols in the city, and 3 people were incarcerated for throwing rocks.

⁸⁰ Appointments were as follows: Captain of Police, John J. Furlong; Police Lieutenant, F. Skipper; First Sgt, J. L. Sallings; 2nd Sgt, Joseph R. Davis; 3rd Sgt, J. D. Orrell; Day Janitor for City Hall, R. A. Benson; Night Janitor for City Hall, J. A. Lane; Health Officers, G. W. Cameron and M. Kirchbaum; Superintendent of Streets, J. A. Perry. "Minutes of the Wilmington Board of Aldermen," November, 1898, State Archives, North Carolina Office of Archives and History, Raleigh.

⁸¹ The meeting held on November 16 was a special session designed to make "selections of whites to fill places of Negro firemen." New fire department leaders were J. J. Bell, Engineer of Engine Co. No. 2; L. Freemuth, Foreman of Engine No. 2; M. F. Dowling, Foreman of Hose Reel Co. No. 3. Firemen hired included Theodore Swann plus 16 other white men. George Irving was elected cattle weigher. A Raleigh paper ran a headline, "Elimination of Negroes Complete —All of Departments in Wilmington in White Hands," to assure outsiders that Waddell and the city were following through with their pre-election promises. *Morning Star* (Wilmington), November 17-18, 1898; Raleigh *Morning Post*, November 17, 1898; "Minutes of the Wilmington Board of Aldermen," November, 1898, State Archives, North Carolina Office of Archives and History, Raleigh.

⁸² Party infighting resulted in the resignations and a substantial delay in the selection of replacements. Bridgers and King claimed personal business pressures required them to dedicate themselves to their businesses; Kramer resigned to accept a pastorate in another city. McDuffie, "Politics in Wilmington," 770; *Wilmington Messenger*, November 24 – December 10, 1898; *Morning Star* (Wilmington), November 24 - December 10, 1898.